MARVEL COMICS

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RAVAGE 2099

DUEL WITH DETHSTRYK

DIRECT EDITION

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$1.50 US $2.05 CAN

TIANA... HELA... STOP! I CAN'T BREATHE -- YOU'RE GOING TOO FAST FOR ME!

BATS AREN'T MEANT TO FLY BACK-WARDS AT TWO HUNDRED MILES AN HOUR!

HA HA! WE'RE DOING CLOSER TO FIVE OR SIX HUNDRED! I'LL DROP BELOW THE CLOUDS FOR AWHILE... GO A LITTLE SLOWER.

DOWN THERE... AN ISLAND! I'LL LAND AND LET YOU REST AWHILE... ALTHOUGH WE'VE ONLY A FEW HUNDRED MILES TO GO BEFORE WE REACH **HELLROCK.**

WHA--?!

THIS IS NOT NORMAL... ALL THIS POLLUTION! WHERE DID IT COME FROM?

THIS ISLAND IS IN THE PATH OF THE SAME ATLANTIC DRIFT CURRENT AS HELLROCK... IT'S "DOWNSTREAM" OF IT... THAT MUST MEAN...

...HELLROCK IS BREAKING UP!

MY ELITE FORCES SHALL DRINK THE BLOOD FROM YOUR BRAIN PANS, TRAITOROUS PIGS! BUT YOU, RAVAGE... I SHALL NOT DIRTY MY TEETH WITH YOUR FLESH.

RIPGNASH! **KILL!**

Ooh, SQUEEK! I'M TERRIFIED.

AAAAGH!

GRRRR!

YELLLP!

NIGHTY-NIGHT, POOCH!

DIE!

YOUR ICHOR SHALL ADD RICHNESS TO HELLROCK'S SOIL!

I'D NEVER BEEN HIT SO HARD BEFORE... WITH STRENGTH LIKE THAT, HE DIDN'T NEED A SWORD.

THIS ISN'T GOING TO BE EASY.

I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG YOU'VE BEEN ASLEEP, SLAGFACE, BUT YOU NEED SOME NEW ONE-LINERS!

I SAID, DIE! I CRUSH YOU AS I CRUSH ALL MY MASTER'S ENEMIES!

¡UNNNF!

DIE! DIE! I BURY YOU IN THE SACRED FILTH OF DETHSTRYK'S DOMAIN! EAT POISONED SLIME!

NOW, YOU ARE DEAD... THERE IS STILL TIME TO RALLY MY FORCES--I CAN YET WIN THE DAY IF I--

YOU JUST MADE A BAD MISTAKE, GENERAL!

SCURRY FROM ME, INSECT... BEFORE I DECIDE TO PERSONALLY TAKE ANOTHER LIFE--YOURS!

WH--WHAAA!

WELL, OF COURSE, YOU HAVE THAT OPTION. I'M JUST WASTING YOUR TIME AND MAKING SURE YOU STAND WHERE YOU ARE.

RGH!

YOU SEE, THE LAST TIME SOMEONE BURIED MY FRIEND IN POISON, HE...

UR

YOU SEE THESE, GENERAL? YOU SEE MY CLAWS THAT WERE ONCE MANICURED NAILS?

I-- I SEE THEM...

YOU SEE YOUR DEATH!

NO, RAVAGE -- DON'T DO IT... NOT LIKE THAT!

IT WAS THAT LAST GUT-FULL OF TOXIC SLIME THAT DID IT... PUSHED ME OVER THE EDGE.

GOODBYE REAL WORLD!

WHOEVER PAUL-PHILIP RAVAGE *WAS* -- HE WAS AS DEAD AND GONE AS GENERAL SLAGGFEST!

HRO

OOM!

THROW DOWN YOUR WEAPONS -- DON'T PROVOKE IT... IT WILL KILL US ALL!

AYE, BETTER TO BE KILLED BY DETHSTRYK THAN FACE THAT CREATURE!

GET OUT OF MY WAY, YOU STUPID APES! I'M HERE TO SEE YOUR MASTER!

SEERESS, MY DEAR... WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE? I DON'T RECALL SUMMONING YOU.

PLEASE, DETHSTRYK! DON'T TRIVIALIZE ME! I HAVE *SERVED* YOU LONG ENOUGH TO DESERVE BETTER!

HAVE YOU SEEN SOMETHING IN YOUR CAULTRON THAT *UPSETS* YOU?

HOW--HOW COULD YOU? YOU'VE REVERSED HELLROCK'S POLARITY! IN YOUR CRAZY NEED TO DOMINATE THE PLANET YOU'LL BREAK UP OUR ISLAND FORTRESS!

AND DO YOU REALLY THINK THE OTHER WORLD POWERS WILL JUST SIT BY AND LET YOU DESTROY THEIR LIVES?

YES, YES I DO. THEY *CAN'T* INVADE... JUST ONE LITTLE NICK IN THEIR ENVIRO-SUITS AND--PRESTO! INSTANT MUTROID.

BOMBING HELLROCK WILL JUST SPREAD IT THAT MUCH *FASTER*. BUT REALLY, MY DEAR... WHAT *TRULY* BOTHERS YOU?

IT COULDN'T BE THE ELITE DEATH SQUAD I'VE SENT TO PUT DOWN YOUR REVOLUTION AND KILL YOUR NEW TOY, RAVAGE, WOULD IT?

JUST HOW *STUPID* DO YOU THINK I AM, LADY SEERESS?

SHOULD I KILL YOU NOW? PERHAPS I SHOULD HAVE LONG AGO, WHEN YOUR DOUBTFUL CHARMS FIRST FADED.

I'M NEVER REALLY SURE WHAT TO DO WITH YOU, YOU KNOW... IS THAT PART OF YOUR POWER, TOO?

RELEASE THAT ENERGY BOLT, MY LOVE... AND THOUGH I DIE -- YOU SHALL DISCOVER MY POWER TO YOUR COST!

NOW, NOW... WE SHOULDN'T SQUABBLE -- NOT ON THE EVE OF MY GREATEST VICTORY! THESE ARE WONDERFUL DAYS, SEERESS!

THEY ARE INDEED, LORD OF HELLROCK.

COME WITH ME TO MY NECROLAB... LET'S SEE HOW THE PAWNS FARE IN OUR ROYAL GAME.

WHAT?! WHAT IS THIS?

LET'S TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR HORNED HERO, MY LADY. MY FORCES SHOULD HAVE CAPTURED HIM BY NOW.

IF HE'S STILL ALIVE, I MAY LET YOU KEEP HIM... TO *AMUSE* YOURSELF WITH, AS YOU SIT BY MY SIDE -- WITH PLANET EARTH AS OUR FOOTSTOOL!

NO! HE HAS DEFEATED MY ELITE CORPS! DEFEATED GENERAL SLAGGFEST!

WHAT...? OH, THAT-- OF COURSE HE DID! THERE WAS NEVER ANY QUESTION OF THAT!

NO, MY LORD... LOOK YOU TO THE SKY ABOVE THEM! THERE IS THE CAUSE FOR MY ALARM!

"WHO, OR WHAT, IS THAT, MY LORD?"

THERE... THERE HE IS! IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S BEEN ACTING HIS USUAL SELF... DEAD PEOPLE EVERYWHERE!

USUAL SELF?! I HARDLY RECOGNIZE THAT CREATURE DOWN THERE! ARE--ARE YOU SURE THAT'S PAUL-PHILIP?

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT PAUL-PHILIP, BUT THAT'S DEFINITELY RAVAGE... ALTHOUGH HE'S CHANGED EVEN MORE HORRIBLY SINCE I LAST SAW HIM!

LISTEN, YOU GO JOIN YOUR OLD PAL... I'M NOT SURE I WANT TO MEET HIM!

BESIDES WHICH-- I'M FLYING ON TO DETH-STRYK'S CASTLE TO FINISH SOME LONG OVERDUE BUSINESS!

YOU KNOW, YOU GET BETTER LOOKING EVERY TIME I SEE YOU... FROM A PURELY BAT POINT OF VIEW, OF COURSE!

FERRA! FERRA, YOU'RE ALIVE!

RUMORS OF MY DEATH, RAVAGE, WERE GREATLY EXAGGERATED.

GET READY FOR ROUND TWO, DETH-STRYK! I'M TAKING YOU FOR A TRIP TO THE *HEART OF THE SUN!* BUT ONLY I'M COMING BACK!

WHAT A PECULIARLY FEMININE THREAT... I REMEMBER HER-- SHE USED TO BE CALLED TIANA... WELL, FLY ON, TIANA-- I AWAIT YOUR ARRIVAL.

NO, MY LORD! THIS IS *SERIOUS!* SHE HAS BEEN CHANGED IN *SOME* WAY... SHE CAN *DO* WHAT SHE THREATENS! I, I SENSE IT.

NOW, MY LORD, **NOWWW!**

WITH *PLEASURE*, MY LADY SEERESS!

QUICKLY-- WE HAVE A CHANCE!

MY CAUL-TRON CAN BE USED AS A *WEAPON!* WHEN I SHOUT OUT, I WANT YOU TO *BLAST* ME WITH YOUR FULL POWER.

IF I FOCUS AT HER IMAGE, YOUR POWER WILL NOT DESTROY ME... I CAN *AMPLIFY* IT.

SSPLZAK!

WHAT THE...

AAAGH!

BWOOOM

"ACCORDING TO MY CAULDRON'S INSTRUMENT PANEL, WE HIT HER WITH THE EQUIVALENT OF FIFTEEN HUNDRED GIGAWATTS.

"I DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW THERE'S ANYTHING LEFT OF HER... SHE *MUST* BE DEAD -- EVEN SO, WE'D BETTER HURRY TO THE PLACE WHERE SHE FELL.

"ANOTHER BLAST AT *CLOSE* RANGE SHOULD *INCINERATE* HER BODY... THE NEXT RAINFALL WILL ADD HER ASH TO HELLROCK'S SOIL!"

I WORRY FOR YOU, RAVAGE... I HOPE YOUR FRIEND FLIES BACK WITH MY CHEMICALS AND INSTRUMENTS SOON.

WHEN I *ALTERED* YOUR GENES SO LONG AGO, IT WAS TO SAVE YOUR LIFE... BUT THESE CHANGES...WHAT YOU'RE BECOMING...

URSELL, I AM FOREVER IN YOUR DEBT--BUT YOU WORRY TOO MUCH! MY BODY KNOWS WHAT IT'S DOING... I JUST WANT A LITTLE MORE *CONTROL*... AND MY MIND BACK!

THE SEERESS HAS BEEN CONTROLLING MY WILL--CAN YOUR SCIENCE STOP THAT?

I'M NOT SURE *HOW* SHE DOES IT--PERHAPS WITH THE HELP OF YOUR TELEPATHIC FRIEND, WE CAN DO SOMETHING■

WELL, I GOT THE STUFF YOU NEEDED FROM YOUR CAVE, URSELL...

...AS TO YOUR PLAN--LET'S GIVE IT A SHOT!

YOU ALREADY HAVE TELEPATHIC CONTACT... THINK OF IT AS THE SAME BLOOD TYPE...

...BUT INSTEAD OF BLOOD--THIS IS A *SOUL TRANSFUSION!* WE'LL BE USING FERRA'S WILLPOWER AND SENSE OF AUTONOMY AS A KIND OF "SPLINT" TO YOUR BROKEN ONE.

NOW, AS THE PSI-LINK STARTS TO TAKE EFFECT, I WILL GIVE YOU A SHOT... IT SHOULD SLOW DOWN YOUR RATE OF CHANGE.

WE HAVE A PROBLEM, HERE... THIS MUST GO STRAIGHT INTO WHAT'S LEFT OF YOUR BLOOD-STREAM.

KNIVES, SPEARS -- EVEN BULLETS DON'T TOUCH ME... I THINK EVEN MY EYE-LIDS ARE HARDER THAN STEEL!

WHAT IF THERE WAS ALREADY A HOLE IN HIS FLESH, URSELL? COULD YOU PUT A NEEDLE INTO THAT?

YES, OF COURSE... BUT WHAT COULD...?

SKREEEK!

OH, NO! FERRA -- ARE YOU GOING TO DO, WHAT I THINK YOU'RE GOING TO DO...?

YAAGH! I FELT THAT!

EEEUWW! YOU COULD BOTTLE THAT STUFF AND SELL IT AS PESTICIDE!

I-I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU JUST DID THAT! WELL, I GUESS IT TAKES A BEAST TO BITE A BEAST!

WELL, YOU SHOULD BE GLAD SHE DID... NOW YOU HAVE A CHANCE.

EVEN [redacted]RE THE PROCESS [redacted]EGAN I COULD FEEL MY MIND [redacted]ING... PREPARING FOR AN INVASION OF IDENTITY.

AS STRONG AS MY BODY WAS ...MY MIND WAS FRAGILE AND WEAK... I COULD ONLY IMAGINE WITH MOUNTING APPREHENSION HOW BAD THE "CURE" WAS GOING TO FEEL...

AS TENDRILS OF ALIEN CONSCIOUSNESS WORMED THEIR WAY INTO MY SOUL, SPONTANEOUS WAVES OF ANGER AND NAUSEA CRASHED AGAINST THEM...

...BUT I WAS DETERMINED TO GO THROUGH WITH THIS...

RAV... YOU CAN OPEN YOUR EYES NOW! AND FOR PITY'S SAKE, STOP SHAKING! I DIDN'T FEEL A THING!

REALLY, MR. RAVAGE... THE WHOLE THING TOOK LESS THAN A SECOND--YOU COULDN'T HAVE FELT ANYTHING!

YOU SOUND LIKE A DENTIST!

NEVER MIND... THE THING IS-- HAS IT WORKED?

AS TO YOUR CHANGING BODY... YES-- I BELIEVE YOU WON'T GET ANY WORSE! BUT AS FAR AS THE SEERESS AND HER POWER OVER YOU IS CONCERNED... I DON'T KNOW.

I SUPPOSE WE'LL KNOW IF YOU'RE FREE OF HER POWER THE NEXT TIME SHE TELLS YOU TO KILL SOMEBODY.

WE ALL NEED TO REST-- GATHER OUR STRENGTH. TOMORROW WE MARCH ON DETHSTRYK'S CASTLE!

YOU INTEREST ME, GIRL... HOW IS IT THAT YOUR FLESH DOES NOT YIELD TO HELLROCK'S NOXIOUS MIASMA?

AND WHY DIDN'T MY ENERGY BOLT KILL YOU?

SO IT WAS YOUR POWER THAT BROUGHT ME DOWN?

I TELL YOU STRAIGHT, SISTER... YOU'LL WISH YOUR ENERGY BOLT HAD KILLED ME!

HOW DARE YOU! I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU CHANGE INTO WHATEVER YOU WERE -- BUT YOU LOOK MORTAL ENOUGH NOW!

SMAK!

I FEEL MY POWER RETURNING... IF I CAN JUST STAY ALIVE LONG ENOUGH TO BECOME HELA... I'LL SMEAR THIS WHACKO ALL OVER HER DUNGEON WALLS!

I WAS KEEPING YOU ALIVE OUT OF CURIOSITY!

MY CURIOSITY JUST RAN OUT!

RAGER! SLURT! KILL HER!

MY--MY POWER IS NOT COMING BACK FAST ENOUGH... I DON'T STAND A CHANCE! OH, RAVAGE! THIS IS NOT HOW I WANTED TO DIE!

DO YOUR WORST, YOU UGLY PIG!

YYEEEEUGH! UUUURGH! TEEE... TEEEYAAA!

GGGRAAGH! TEEEYANEEE!

WELL, COME ON, YOU UGLY PIECE OF SLIME--KILL HER!

WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT, YOU STUPID LUMP OF CRUD?

GET OUT OF THE WAY, RAGER! LET SLURT DO WHAT YOU CANNOT!

GGGRRRUUURGH! TEEEEYAAAANEEE!

WHAT MADNESS IS THIS?

BUUGH!?

KRAK!

B--! B--! BAAA--! BAAAD!

ZZZZZK!

IF ONLY THAT FOOL DETHSTRYK HAD NOT DESTROYED MY ACOLYTES... THEY, AT LEAST, HAD THE RIGHT KIND OF TEMPERAMENT FOR THIS!

YOU? ATTACK ME!? YOUR BRAIN IS AS ROTTEN AS YOUR BODY!

HEY, SEEFESS!

OH! YOU HAVE CHANGED INTO...

THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S ME AGAIN...

SNIK! T-CHAK

...HELA! QUEEN OF THE UNDERWORLD! AND NOW...

THE TIME HAD COME... OFFICIALLY, FERRA AND I COULD JUST FLY OUT OF HERE-- LEAVE HELLROCK TO IT'S OWN HOPELESS FATE...

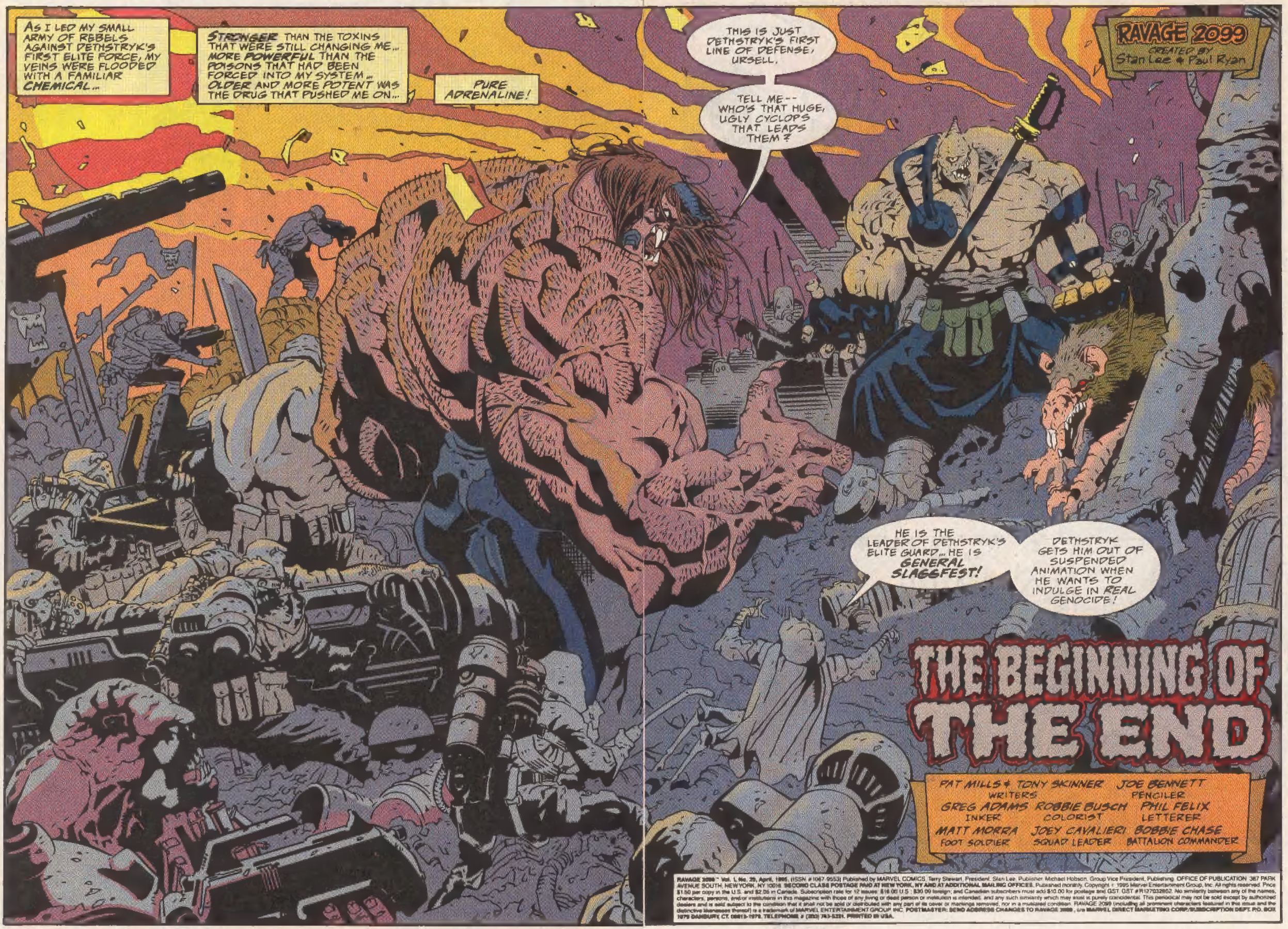
...BUT THIS WAS THE SECOND TIME I HAD SUFFERED THERE... THIS TIME I WASN'T GOING HOME UNTIL I HAD KICKED SOME SERIOUS BUTT!

THIS TIME--DETHSTRYK WAS GOING TO PAY FOR GIVING ME GRIEF. WITH HIS LIFE!

...I'M GOING TO TEAR YOUR CASTLE DOWN AROUND YOUR EARS!

NEXT ISSUE:

THE BIG FINISH!


AS I LED MY SMALL ARMY OF REBELS AGAINST DETHSTRYK'S FIRST ELITE FORCE, MY VEINS WERE FLOODED WITH A FAMILIAR CHEMICAL...
STRONGER THAN THE TOXINS THAT WERE STILL CHANGING ME... MORE POWERFUL THAN THE POISONS THAT HAD BEEN FORCED INTO MY SYSTEM... OLDER AND MORE POTENT WAS THE DRUG THAT PUSHED ME ON...
PURE ADRENALINE!
THIS IS JUST DETHSTRYK'S FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE, URSELL.
TELL ME-- WHO'S THAT HUGE, UGLY CYCLOPS THAT LEADS THEM?
RAVAGE 2099
CREATED BY Stan Lee & Paul Ryan
HE IS THE LEADER OF DETHSTRYK'S ELITE GUARD... HE IS GENERAL SLAGGFEST!
DETHSTRYK GETS HIM OUT OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION WHEN HE WANTS TO INDULGE IN REAL GENOCIDE!
THE BEGINNING OF THE END
PAT MILLS & TONY SKINNER WRITERS
JOE BENNETT PENCILER
GREG ADAMS INKER
ROBBIE BUSCH COLORIST
PHIL FELIX LETTERER
MATT MORRA FOOT SOLDIER
JOEY CAVALIERI SQUAD LEADER
BOBBIE CHASE BATTALION COMMANDER

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